

*April 15, 2011*

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of Dubuque business owners Gina L. Blean and Kelly A. Heysinger for winning the Small Business Administration's (SBA's) Iowa "Small Business Person of the Year" award. Gina and Kelly are co-owners of Unified Therapy Services, Inc. in Dubuque, Iowa.

Small businesses are the driving force behind our economy and I couldn't be prouder of this one. This prestigious award is only bestowed upon the nation's top entrepreneurs--and I'm glad to see the entrepreneurial spirit flourishing in eastern Iowa. We must continue to promote our small businesses and make sure that they can thrive and create new jobs.

In May, the SBA will honor Gina, Kelly, and other winners from across the country in Washington, DC, during National Small Business Week. The SBA will also select the "National Small Business Person of the Year" from the state "Small Business Persons of the Year." I will be rooting for them to win this prestigious national award.